

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-04

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 046032

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SO, US, MASS, PBOR

SUBJECT: SOMALI AMBASSADOR'S MEETING WITH THE DEPUTY
SECRETARY, FEBRUARY 21

1. THE SOMALI EMBASSY REQUESTED THAT SECRETARY VANCE MEET
AMBASSADOR ADDOU UPON HIS RETURN FROM HIS BRIEF VISIT TO
MOGADISCIO, GIVING AS JUSTIFICATION THE FACT THAT THE
AMBASSADOR WAS CARRYING AN URGENT MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT
SIAD FOR THE PRESIDENT OR THE SECRETARY. GIVEN THE REPUTED
URGENCY OF THE MESSAGE, ADDOU WAS RECEIVED BY DEPUTY
SECRETARY WARREN CHRISTOPHER ON FEBRUARY 21.

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2. ADDOU BEGAN BY SAYING THAT DURING HIS BRIEF TWO DAY
VISIT TO MOGADISCIO HE FOUND THE POPULATION EXTREMELY CON-
CERNED BY THE SOVIET, SOUTH YEMEN AND CUBAN THREAT. HE
THEN GAVE THE DEPUTY SECRETARY AN AIDE MEMOIRE WHICH
REPEATED THE SOMALI VIEW OF THE CONFLICT IN THE HORN OF
AFRICA WITH ITS USUAL STRESS ON THE DANGER POSED BY SOVIET

UNION AND CUBA AND THE PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF YEMEN. THE MEMORANDUM NOTED THAT "THE SOMALI DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC DEEMS IT OF VITAL IMPORTANCE THAT FIRST AND FOREMOST ITS SOVEREIGNTY BE SECURED. THE ONLY WAY THIS CAN BE DONE UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES IS THROUGH DIRECT US MILITARY ASSISTANCE AND, SHOULD THAT BECOME NOT ADVISABLE AT THE PRESENT TIME, THROUGH FRIENDLY THIRD PARTIES." MEMORANDUM THE FOLLOWING AS ESSENTIAL TO ACHIEVE DURABLE SOLUTION TO THE CURRENT CONFLICT IN THE HORN OF AFRICA: A) IMMEDIATE CEASE-FIRE AND ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NECESSARY ARRANGEMENTS; B) TOTAL WITHDRAWAL OF EXTERNAL FORCES; C) RAPID INITIATION OF NEGOTIATIONS FOR LASTING SETTLEMENT AND PEACE; D) DEFENSIVE US MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO PROTECT SOMALIA'S INDEPENDENCE." THE MEMORANDUM CONCLUDED BY INSISTING THAT REFUSAL OF THE UNITED STATES TO ACT IN THE WAY PROPOSED BY SOMALIA WAS TO LEAVE THE AREA AT THE MERCY OF THE SOVIET UNION.

3. IN RESPONSE TO THE DEPUTY SECRETARY'S QUESTIONS, ADDOU DEFINED EXTERNAL FORCES IN ITEM B) AS EXTRA-CONTINENTAL FORCES BELONGING TO THE SOVIET UNION, CUBA, POLY AND EAST GERMANY. WHEN ASKED ABOUT THE WITHDRAWAL OF SOMALI FORCES FROM ETHIOPIAN TERRITORY, ADDOU REPLIED THAT THAT WOULD BE THE RESULT OF THE NEGOTIATIONS REFERRED TO IN ITEM C). THE DEPUTY SECRETARY NOTED THAT OUR POSITION ON POSSIBLE SETTLEMENT HAD BEEN MADE CLEAR. ADDOU REPLIED THAT THE CONFIDENTIAL

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SOMALI GOVERNMENT UNDERSTOOD THE US POSITION BUT THAT IN ORDER TO GET THE PEACE PROCESS MOVING, THERE HAD TO BE PROVISION MADE FOR THE REMOVAL OF "FOREIGN FORCES" FROM THE TERRITORY.

4. ADDOU INFORMED THE DEPUTY SECRETARY THAT AS THE OFFICIAL REPRESENTATIVE OF A FRIENDLY GOVERNMENT HE HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED BY PRESIDENT SIAD TO MEET EITHER PRESIDENT CARTER OR THE SECRETARY BEFORE HIS RETURN TO SOMALIA IN TWO WEEKS' TIME. HE APOLOGIZED FOR ANY POSSIBLE ABUSE OF THE TIME OF SUCH SENIOR FIGURES, BUT THE SITUATION IN THE HORN WAS DEVELOPING SO QUICKLY THAT WITHOUT PROMPT ACTION THE SITUATION MIGHT BE OUT OF CONTROL BOTH OF THE SOMALI GOVERNMENT AND THE UNITED STATES BEFORE THE MONTH OF MARCH WAS OUT. HE THEREFORE HAD LITTLE CHOICE BUT TO REQUEST TO BE RECEIVED BY THE SECRETARY IN ACCORDANCE WITH HIS INSTRUCTIONS.

5. THE DEPUTY SECRETARY SAID HE WOULD PASS AMBASSADOR ADDOU'S REQUEST TO MR. VANCE. VANCE

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